

stakeholders and help to ensure issuance of robust and reliable patents that promote and protect innovation, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) issued a revision of the Ninth Edition of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), published in February 2023 (July 2022 revision). The MPEP provides patent examiners and the public with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to the prosecution of patent applications and other proceedings before the USPTO. The MPEP contains instructions to examiners, as well as other material in the nature of information and interpretation, and outlines the current procedures that examiners are required or authorized to follow in the normal examination of patent applications and during other Office proceedings.

**ADDRESSES:** The USPTO prefers that suggestions for improving the form and content of the MPEP be submitted via email to [mpepfeedback@uspto.gov](mailto:mpepfeedback@uspto.gov) or via the IdeaScale® tool available at <https://uspto-mpep.ideascale.com/a/index>. Written comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Editor, Manual of Patent Examining Procedure.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeanne Clark, Editor of the MPEP, at [Jeanne.Clark@uspto.gov](mailto:Jeanne.Clark@uspto.gov) or 571-272-7714; Monique Cole Gary, Patent Examination Policy Advisor, at [Monique.Cole@uspto.gov](mailto:Monique.Cole@uspto.gov) or 571-272-1463; or Kathy Mosser, Patent Examination Policy Advisor, at [Kathleen.Mosser@uspto.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Mosser@uspto.gov) or 571-272-3435.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USPTO issued a revision to the Ninth Edition of the MPEP, published in February 2023, which provides USPTO patent examiners, applicants, attorneys, agents, representatives of applicants, and other members of the public with a reference work on the practices and procedures relative to the prosecution of patent applications before the USPTO. The MPEP contains instructions to examiners, as well as other material in the nature of information and interpretation, and outlines the current procedures that examiners are required or authorized to follow in the normal examination of patent applications and during other Office proceedings. Although the MPEP does not have the force of law or the force of the rules in 37 CFR, it “is well known to those registered to practice in the [US]PTO and reflects the presumptions under which the [US]PTO operates.” *Critikon*,

*Inc. v. Becton Dickinson Vascular Access, Inc.*, 120 F.3d 1253, 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

In the February 2023 publication of the MPEP revision, sections of chapters 100, 200, 400–1500, 1700, 1800, 2000–2200, 2400, 2500, and 2700–2900 have been updated. The updated sections have a revision indicator of [R–07.2022], meaning these sections have been updated to reflect USPTO patent practice and relevant case law as of July 31, 2022. In addition, Chapter FPC—Form Paragraphs Consolidated, the Foreword, Introduction, Subject Matter Index, and all appendices except Appendix I and Appendix P have been updated. The changes in the February 2023 publication are discussed in the Change Summary for the Ninth Edition, Revision 07.2022. The Change Summary is available in three renditions at <https://www.uspto.gov/MPEP>. Citation to a section in the current revision of the MPEP should be to “e9 r07.2022,” e.g., MPEP 2163 (e9 r07.2022).

The February 2023 publication of the revision of the Ninth Edition of the MPEP may be viewed or downloaded free of charge from the USPTO website at <https://www.uspto.gov/MPEP> and is available to search online at <https://mpep.uspto.gov>. Archived copies of each of the prior revisions and editions of the MPEP continue to be available for reference on the USPTO website at <https://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/old/index.htm>.

**Katherine K. Vidal,**

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2023-04345 Filed 3-2-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Proposed additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee is proposing to add service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes product(s) and service(s) previously furnished by such agencies.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before: April 2, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 785-6404, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

### Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in this notice will be required to procure the service(s) listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

The following service(s) are proposed for addition to the Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

#### Service(s)

*Service Type:* Warehouse Services

*Mandatory for:* Naval Air War Center Air Division, Naval Air Systems Command, Granite City, IL

*Designated Source of Supply:* Professional Contract Services, Inc., Austin, TX

*Contracting Activity:* DEPT OF THE NAVY, NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER AIR DIV

### Deletions

The following product(s) and service(s) are proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

#### Product(s)

NSN(s)—Product Name(s):

7520-01-058-9976—Pen, Ballpoint, Stick, Hexagonal Barrel, Green, Medium Point  
7510-00-161-6211—Cup, Supply, Self-Stacking, Clear

*Designated Source of Supply:* Alphapointe, Kansas City, MO

*Contracting Activity:* GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 4820-00-052-4651—Valve, Ball, Piping

*Designated Source of Supply:* The Opportunity Center Easter Seal Facility—The Ala ES Soc, Inc., Anniston, AL

*Contracting Activity:* DLA LAND AND MARITIME, COLUMBUS, OH

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 8340-00-262-2397—Cover, Tent

*Designated Source of Supply:* APEX, Inc., Anadarko, OK

*Contracting Activity:* DLA TROOP SUPPORT, PHILADELPHIA, PA

NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 6645-01-467-8479—Clock, Wall, Black Custom Logo,

22" Diameter  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Chicago Lighthouse Industries, Chicago, IL  
*Contracting Activity:* GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY)  
 NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-455-7233—Pen, Ballpoint, Stick Type, Recycled, Green Ink, Medium Point  
*Designated Source of Supply:* West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, San Angelo, TX  
*Contracting Activity:* GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY)  
 NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-451-9180—Pen, Ballpoint, Retractable, Essential LVX, Red, Medium Point  
 7520-01-451-9181—Pen, Ballpoint, Retractable, Essential LVX, Blue, Medium Point  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., West Allis, WI  
*Contracting Activity:* GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY)  
 NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 7520-01-492-8463—Pen, Retractable, Neon, LVX Ink Gripper, Black, Fine point  
 7520-01-492-8464—Pen, Retractable, Neon, LVX Ink Gripper, Black, Medium point  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Midwest Enterprises for the Blind, Inc., Kalamazoo, MI  
*Contracting Activity:* GSA/FAS ADMIN SVCS ACQUISITION BR (2, NEW YORK, NY)  
 NSN(s)—Product Name(s): 2540-00-737-3311—Cushion, Seat Back  
*Designated Source of Supply:* APEX, Inc., Anadarko, OK  
*Contracting Activity:* DLA LAND AND MARITIME, COLUMBUS, OH  
*Service(s)*  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining Service  
*Mandatory for:* Arizona Industries for the Blind, 515 N 51st Ave. #130, Phoenix, AZ  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Arizona Industries for the Blind, Phoenix, AZ  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining Service  
*Mandatory for:* The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc., 2601 South Plum, Seattle, WA  
*Designated Source of Supply:* The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. (Seattle Lighthouse), Seattle, WA  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining Service  
*Mandatory for:* WISCRAFT, Inc., 5316 West State Street, Milwaukee, WI  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Wiscraft, Inc., Milwaukee, WI  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROP SUPPORT C&E HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining  
*Mandatory for:* DLA Wide (Off-Site—515 N 51st Ave. #130, Phoenix, AZ)

*Designated Source of Supply:* Arizona Industries for the Blind, Phoenix, AZ  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining  
*Mandatory for:* DLA Wide (Off-Site—2601 South Plum St., Seattle, WA)  
*Designated Source of Supply:* The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. (Seattle Lighthouse), Seattle, WA  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Parts Machining  
*Mandatory for:* DLA Wide (Off-Site—5316 West State St., Milwaukee, WI)  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Wiscraft, Inc., Milwaukee, WI  
*Contracting Activity:* DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY, DLA TROOP SUPPORT CE HARDWARE  
*Service Type:* Sourcing, Warehousing, Assembly and Kitting  
*Mandatory for:* Montana Army National Guard, 1956 MT Majo Street, Fort Harrison, MT  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Industries for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., West Allis, WI  
*Contracting Activity:* DEPT OF THE ARMY, W7NK USPFO ACTIVITY MT ARNG  
*Service Type:* Janitorial/Custodial  
*Mandatory for:* North Dakota Maintenance Office & Bismarck Warehouse, Bismarck ND  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Pride, Inc., Bismarck, ND  
*Contracting Activity:* ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF, WESTERN-UPPER GREAT PLAINS REGION  
*Service Type:* Janitorial/Custodial  
*Mandatory for:* North Dakota Maintenance Office, 707 North Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Pride, Inc., Bismarck, ND  
*Contracting Activity:* ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF, WESTERN-UPPER GREAT PLAINS REGION  
*Service Type:* Janitorial/Custodial  
*Mandatory for:* Bureau of Land Management, Farmington District Office, 6251 College Boulevard, Farmington, NM  
*Designated Source of Supply:* Presbyterian Medical Services, Santa Fe, NM  
*Contracting Activity:* BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, NM—NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE

**Michael R. Jurkowski,**

*Acting Director, Business Operations.*

[FR Doc. 2023-04403 Filed 3-2-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6353-01-P**

## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Deletions from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action deletes product(s) and service(s) from the Procurement List that were furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**DATES:** *Date added to and deleted from the Procurement List:* April 02, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 785-6404, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Deletions

On 12/9/2022 and 12/16/2023, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice of proposed deletions from the Procurement List. This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3.

After consideration of the relevant matter presented, the Committee has determined that the product(s) and service(s) listed below are no longer suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501-8506 and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action may result in authorizing small entities to furnish the product(s) and service(s) to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 8501-8506) in connection with the product(s) and service(s) deleted from the Procurement List.